

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-14 and 16-21, drawn to a modified hydrogenated copolymer; and

Group II, claims 15 and 22, drawn to a crosslinked modified hydrogenated copolymer.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-14 and 16-21.

The Examiner has also required an election in the present application between:

Structures I-V, further modified by substructures a-1 through j-1 of claim 2.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect structure (III) ($C^1-NR^2-D^1$), and substructures (d-1) (as C^1 in structure (III)) and (f-1) (as D^1 in structure III). Claims 1-4, 7, 10-14 and 16-21 are readable on the elected species. As acknowledged by the Examiner, at least claims 1-2 are generic.

CONCLUSION

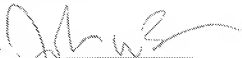
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Bailey (Registration No. 32,881) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: August 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

John W. Bailey
Registration No.: 32,881
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant